



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

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Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks News Release

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Marijuana Cultivation Site Found at Sequoia National Park

Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks, CA –National Park Service rangers recently discovered a marijuana cultivation site near the North Fork area of Sequoia National Park. During the investigation, tactical units were brought in from three other national park sites (Point Reyes National Seashore, Yosemite National Park, and Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area), as well as the Tulare County Sheriff's Department, U.S. Border Patrol, and the California Air National Guard to assist with the incident.

On Sunday August 14, rangers stopped a vehicle with five suspects inside. All five fled the scene on foot and left approximately 40 pounds of processed marijuana in the vehicle. On Tuesday, August 16, rangers encountered a suspicious vehicle along North Fork Road. The driver attempted to elude law enforcement but was stopped and identified. The driver and passenger appear to have been attempting to resupply a marijuana cultivation site. The two suspects were taken into custody by Border Patrol for immigration violations. On Wednesday, August 17, rangers conducted a raid of the marijuana cultivation site and eradicated a total of 1,016 plants, including some more than 10 feet tall. The drugs had an estimated street value of \$4,064,000. In addition, law enforcement staff found weapons and used ammunition.

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